



A Look Ahead . . .

A publication for FEMP stakeholders

Cleanup Progress is Visible

A contract has been awarded to complete site preparation in the Inactive Fly Ash Pile/Southfield Area and the Active Fly Ash Pile Area. Field activities will begin by late September. These areas represent an active source of contamination to the underlying Great Miami Aquifer. On July 1, the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) initiated construction of the first of eight planned On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) cells. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio EPA are working to place a 3-foot-thick layer of contaminated soil in the OSDF in October to protect the liner from winter freeze.

Scale of Technology Application Expected to Exceed Previous Groundwater Cleanup Efforts in U.S.

Under an innovative strategy that will cut 17 years off the projected 27-year groundwater cleanup process and save millions of dollars, 12 groundwater extraction wells are being installed on and off the southern boundary of the FEMP. These extraction wells will be on line by September 1998. This aggressive effort also entails large-scale re-injection of treated groundwater into the aquifer. Applying this technology at the FEMP is expected to greatly exceed previous groundwater cleanup efforts undertaken in the U.S. Five large-diameter re-injection wells have been installed on FEMP property along Willey Road. This fall, winter and next spring, considerable excavation activity will be visible at the southern portion of the site.

Road Construction Projects Near Completion

In addition, construction of the new on-site haul road is nearly complete. The haul road, which will be used to transport waste from various locations to the OSDF, is scheduled for completion in November. In addition, construction of the new north access road is on schedule for opening at the end of October.

Sept. 9 Public Forum Features Tour to Show Fernald On-Site Disposal Facility Progress

DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald invite stakeholders to attend a new public forum – the monthly “Cleanup Progress Briefing.” The briefing is intended to:

1. update stakeholders regularly on current remediation projects;
2. preview activity scheduled for the near- and long-term, as appropriate; and
3. address specific issues and concerns regarding Fernald cleanup.

On Sept. 9, the “Cleanup Progress Briefing” will begin with a detailed update of all major Fernald cleanup projects, followed a bus tour of the OSDF site to see construction progress. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. at the Alpha Building, 10967 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison, Ohio. Subsequent briefings will be held at 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month and will feature topic(s) of stakeholders’ choice.



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Public Meeting on Fernald Silos Project Dispute Resolution to be Held Aug. 26

U.S. EPA will issue a public notice of the final modification to the Amended Consent Agreement and has announced a 30-day comment period, which is being conducted until Sept. 3. On Aug. 26, at 6 p.m., U.S. EPA will hold a public meeting at the Alpha Building (Classroom D) to discuss the Amended Consent Agreement modification with interested stakeholders. On July 14, 1997, DOE signed a settlement document and issued the document to U.S. EPA for signature. On July 22, U.S. EPA and DOE formally reached agreement in an ongoing dispute of the Fernald Silos Project (Operable Unit 4). As part of the dispute resolution, DOE has agreed to an overall monetary penalty of \$100,000 for the missed milestones.

Silos Project "Explanation of Significant Differences" Document Available

DOE has submitted to U.S. EPA a draft "Explanation of Significant Differences" (ESD) report for the remediation of Silo 3 at the FEMP. Upon regulators' concurrence, the draft final ESD will be released for formal public review and comment. The ESD will serve as the technical justification for revising the remedy for the remediation of Silo 3 from vitrification to an alternative treatment process. A public comment period on the draft ESD document will be held. A responsiveness summary addressing all stakeholder comments will be included in the final ESD document.

Public Comment Period on Accelerated Cleanup Plan Ends Sept. 9; Alm to Visit Oct. 2

The 90-day public comment period on the *Accelerating Cleanup: Focus on 2006*, DOE Environmental Management document ends Sept. 9. Stakeholders can submit comments to DOE-FEMP Public Affairs Director Gary Stegner, 513-648-3153. The draft document is available at the Public Environmental Information Center and on DOE Environmental Management's Web site (<http://www.em.doe.gov/acc2006>). Locally, stakeholders can meet DOE Environmental Management Assistant Secretary Al Alm on Oct. 2, at the Holiday Inn, located off Interstate 275, near the Greater Cincinnati Northern Kentucky Airport. The meeting time will be announced in *A Look Ahead . . .* and on the Public Involvement Calendar in the "Stakeholders/Opportunities" section of the FEMP Web site (<http://www.fernald.gov>).

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